18 Tentative Jurors Set in Ellsberg Case

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LOS ANGELES, Jan. 4 (UPI) — Eighteen prospective jurors undergoing examination in the second Pentagon papers trial swore today that they would not be prejudiced against a defendant simply because he Joined antiwar protests or criticized President Nixon.

The 11 women and seven men were the first tentative jurors seated in the case in which the government charges Daniel Ellsberg and Anthony J. Russo with conspiracy and espionage in removing secret documents on the Vietnam war.

Few if any of the 18 were expected to survive extended questioning about their backgrounds, beliefs and exposure to publicity or the six government and 14 defense preemptory challenges which can remove them without cause.